

Claims

1. A method comprising:

receiving a message-notification into a wireless communication device (WCD), via a cellular wireless air interface, the message-notification indicating a data message stored in a data network;

passing an indication of the message-notification from the WCD to a computer locally connected with the WCD;

responsively sending a message-retrieval request from the computer to a message server over a communication path that does not include the WCD and that does not include the cellular wireless air interface;

receiving the data message into the computer in a response to the message-retrieval request; and

rendering the received data message for presentation to a user.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the message-notification comprises a Multimedia-Message-Service (MMS) message-notification.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the MMS message-notification comprises a coded Short Message Service (SMS) message.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the data message comprises multimedia content selected from the group consisting of text, graphics, photographic image, audio, speech, and video.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the WCD comprises a device selected from the group consisting of a cellular telephone, a wirelessly-equipped personal digital assistant (PDA), and a wirelessly-equipped personal computer.

5 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the cellular wireless air interface comprises an air interface selected from the group consisting of a CDMA air interface, a TDMA air interface and a GSM air interface.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein sending the message-retrieval request from the
10 computer to a message server over the communication path that does not include the WCD and that does not include the cellular wireless air interface comprises:

sending the message-retrieval request from the computer to the message server over a network connection that includes a wired Ethernet link between the computer and a network router, and over a broadband connection between the network router and the message server.

15 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the message-retrieval request comprises a Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP) request.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the indication of the message-notification comprises
20 the message-notification.

10. A system comprising:

a wireless communication device (WCD) operable to communicate over a cellular wireless air interface with a cellular radio access network that provides connectivity with a packet-data network;

5 a computer connected locally to the WCD, the computer having a wired network connection with the packet-data network, the wired network connection not including the WCD and not including the cellular wireless air interface;

first message-client logic stored in the WCD and executable by the WCD, upon receipt of a message-notification via the cellular wireless air interface, to pass to the computer an indication of
10 the message-notification, the message-notification indicating a data message stored in the packet-data network; and

second message-client logic stored in the computer and executable by the computer, upon receipt of the indication, to send a message-retrieval request to a message-server on the packet-data network via the wired network connection, and to receive the data message in a response to the
15 message-retrieval request.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the second message-client logic is further executable by the computer to render the data message for presentation to a user.

20 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the second message-client logic is further executable to pass the data message to the WCD, and wherein the first message-client logic is further executable to render the data message for presentation to a user.

13. The system of claim 10, wherein the message-notification comprises a Multimedia-Message-Service (MMS) message-notification.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the MMS message-notification comprises a coded
5 Short Message Service (SMS) message.

15. The system of claim 10, wherein the data message comprises multimedia content selected from the group consisting of text, graphics, photographic image, audio, speech, and video.

10 16. The system of claim 10, wherein the WCD comprises a device selected from the group consisting of a cellular telephone, a wirelessly-equipped personal digital assistant (PDA), and a wirelessly-equipped personal computer.

17. The system of claim 10, wherein the cellular wireless air interface comprises an air
15 interface selected from the group consisting of a CDMA air interface, a TDMA air interface and a GSM air interface.

18. The system of claim 10, wherein the wired network connection includes a wired Ethernet link between the computer and a network router, and a broadband connection between the
20 network router and the packet-data network.

19. The system of claim 10, wherein the message-retrieval request comprises a Hypertext Transport Protocol (HTTP) request.

20. The system of claim 10, wherein the indication of the message-notification comprises the message-notification.

- 5 21. A method comprising:
- receiving a message-notification into a cellular wireless communication device via a cellular wireless air interface;
- passing the message-notification from the WCD to a locally connected computer; and
- in response to the message-notification, sending a message-retrieval request from the computer to a
- 10 message server over a communication path that does not include the cellular wireless air interface.